



bay restoration commission

STEWARDS OF SANTA MONICA BAY

santa monica bay restoration commission 320 west 4th street, ste 200; los angeles, california 90013
213/576-6615 phone 213/576-6646 fax santamonica bay.org

4/30/2013

Ephraim Leon-Guerrero
U.S. EPA, Region 9
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, CA 94105

Mr. Leon-Guerrero:

Attached is the Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission's semi- annual progress report for the time period October 1, 2012 – March 31, 2013. The Report addresses activities funded under the Santa Monica Bay Restoration Foundation Agreement with U.S. EPA and match funds obtained from other sources including the State Water Resources Control Board, the State Coastal Conservancy, and among others.

In addition to the semi- annual progress report, the following deliverables are being provided on a media disk (CD):

WP Action/ Task	Deliverable
1.1	Prop 12, 50, and 84 semi-annual reports
4.1	BayWire
5.6	Governing Board, Executive Committee, Foundation Board of Directors, TAC Agenda Packages

Please do not hesitate to contact us with any questions you might have.

Sincerely,

Shelley Luce
Executive Director

our mission: to restore and enhance the santa monica bay through actions and partnerships that improve water quality, conserve and rehabilitate natural resources, and protect the bay's benefits and values



TASK 1. Water Resources and Quality Improvement

Task 1.1 – Oversee Prop 12, 50, 84 bond-funded grants

Summary:

Prop 50

Malibu Lagoon Restoration Project - Construction scheduled began June 2012 and completed in March 2013. Winter storms caused a three month delay in completion. The site has been completely replanted with native, locally sourced vegetation. The western portion of the lagoon has been re-contoured to improve circulation, and multiple educational amenities have been installed.

Arroyo Sequit Restoration - Grant agreements have been executed and design/engineering is at 65%. Permit applications are in development.

Culver City's City-Wide Best Management Practices (BMP) Treatment Train - Construction of four rain gardens completed. More than 600 catch basin trash screens have been installed throughout the city. Approximately 50 trash/recycling bins have been installed in litter-prone areas.

Go Wild Native Landscaping at Schools - project completed and final report approved.

Prop12

Rindge Dam Removal Study - Technical Advisory Committee and ACoE met several times. Feasibility Study / Environmental Documents being reviewed and finalized by TAC for internal ACoE review. Public meetings and comment period scheduled for September/October 3013.

Prop 84

City of Calabasas (Catch Basin Trash Inserts) and City of Santa Monica (In-line Storm Drain Treatment and Infiltration) are currently reviewing construction bids.

City of Torrance (Storm Water Basin Enhancement) Staff met with grantee several times to discuss planning and supply input. Design/Engineering for the project is 95% complete and the plant pallet has been reviewed and approved by SMBRC staff.

Deliverables:

Semi-annual progress reports

Next steps:

Continue to meet with grantees, process project reports, invoices, etc. Monitor progress of all projects.

Status:

On-going

Task 1.2 – Facilitate development and implementation of water quality regulations in the Bay watershed

Summary:

Continued monitoring of the MS4 permit adoption process. Reviewed stakeholders' comments, prepared and provided testimony at the MS4 permit hearing.

Deliverables:

N/A

Next Steps:

Continue to participate in the stakeholder process. Carry out the TMDL implementation progress assessment project.

Status:

On-going

Task 1.3 – Facilitate comprehensive watershed management

Summary:

Participation in LA IRWMP

IRWMP – Continued to attend local IRWMP meetings to monitor bond funding through the IRWMP process as well as monitor the progress in the IRWMP plan update process. Continued to address comments on the Open Space for Habitat and Recreation section of the IRWMP plan update. Participated in the workgroup to identify the need and strategy for adapting climate change impacts in the IRWMP plan update.

Deliverables:

N/A

Next Steps:

Continue participation on relevant stakeholder and technical advisory groups.

Status:

Ongoing

Task 1.4 – Implement green infrastructure and LID projects in targeted watersheds

Culver City/Ballona Creek Rain Garden: Continued maintenance and removal of non-native vegetation. Developed proposal and engineering plan and sought funding for enhancement of the rain garden. Coordinated 3 volunteer community restoration days.

LMU Rain Garden: Continued maintenance and removal of non-native vegetation.

Deliverables:

N/A

Next Steps:

Continue rain garden maintenance and implement the Ballona Creek rain garden enhancement project.

Status:

Ongoing

Task 1.5 – Climate Change Adaptation and Climate Ready Estuary (CRE)

Climate Ready Estuary Program: The final report for the CRE-funded project, "Climate Change Implications for Ballona Wetlands Restoration", underwent final peer review and was completed in October 2012. The final report was posted on the SMBRF and BWER website (www.santamonibabay.org; www.ballonarestoration.org) and distributed electronically. Results of the study was presented at the Climate Change Impacts on Coastal Habitats workshop held by NOAA in Southern California and the 2013 Annual Wetlands Symposium held by the SMBRC at LMU.

Continued to participate in the meetings of the Los Angeles Regional Climate Change Adaptation Collaborative (LARC) to communicate the study to local stakeholders and facilitate exchange of climate change adaptation information in general. Participated in Adapt LA, the climate change vulnerability assessment project conducted by USC Sea Grant for the City of Los Angeles. As member of the Steering Committee, assisted NOAA in organizing the Southern California Workshop on Climate Change Impacts on Coastal Habitats.

Deliverables:

N/A

Next Steps:

Continue participation of regional stakeholder groups and promote adaptation planning by coastal jurisdictions.

Status:

Ongoing

Task 1.6 – Clean Bay Restaurant Certification Program

Summary:

Staff attended monthly J5-J6 meetings to coordinate 2012-2013 outreach activities. Other promotion, planning, and program coordination all continued during this reporting period. Promotion activities included daily Facebook and Twitter posts, purchasing a sponsored ad on Facebook, and planning meetings with participating cities to coordinate outreach events

throughout the year. Meetings begin in November. Staff worked with graphic designer to finalize logo, certificate, and window decal.

Collected current lists of certified restaurants and requested that cities include contact information for owners and managers. Using these lists, reached out to participating venues via email, letters, and phone for solicitation of program support and in-kind donations. Staff coordinated upcoming outreach events in 7 cities including: SeaFair, Malibu Food and Wine Festival, Festival Hermosa, Santa Monica Green Fair, etc. Other promotion activities included daily Facebook and Twitter posts, press releases, and planning meetings with participating cities to coordinate outreach events throughout the year. Created the new Clean Bay Eats Pocket Guide for distribution at events and began design for an interactive booth space.

Deliverables:

N/A

Next Steps:

Continue updating certified restaurant list and SMBRF website, attend outreach events, build interactive booth, maintain partnerships with participating restaurants.

Status:

Ongoing

TASK 2. Wetlands and Other Coastal Habitats Restoration

Task 2.1 – Facilitate Restoration of Priority Wetlands

Ballona Wetlands Restoration Planning/CEQA-NEPA – Coordinated and conducted a public scoping meeting for the EIR/S on August 16, 2012 with attendance from over 70 stakeholders and members of the public. Continued to facilitate discussions with the Army Corps regarding EIS, 404, and 408 permit and application requirements, as well as the 214 funding mechanism to expedite Army Corps review and coordination. Coordinated permitting for geotechnical field exploration and preparation of preliminary geotechnical recommendation and preliminary design reports. Coordinated geotechnical field exploration field teams including Native American monitors, State Parks archeologists, and biological monitors. Circulated and presented levee alternatives for West Area B to the PMT for discussion and comment. Participated in multiple discussions with the Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) to discuss restoration options to be addressed in the Adaptive Management Plan as follow-up to previous SAC meeting. Held meetings or discussions with interested members of the public to provide information about the restoration planning process.

Ballona Wetlands Baseline Assessment Program –Ballona Wetlands Baseline Assessment Program: The second year Baseline Report (2010-2011) was written, edited, finalized, and distributed electronically during this reporting period. It was released in June, 2012 (215pp) on www.ballonarestoration.org. The third year of data collection and fieldwork at the wetlands was completed in September. Surveys completed over the last 6 months included: invertebrate (flying, terrestrial, and benthic), vegetation (salt marsh, brackish, and freshwater habitats and

submerged vegetation), avifauna, large mammal, water quality, carbon sequestration, vertebrate mortality, and California Rapid Assessment Method (CRAM) surveys.

The biological monitoring team continues to provide substantial support to the restoration process, Project Management Team, technical team, the Scientific Advisory Committee, and additional team members. Biological monitoring services were provided to the GeoTech team in the field in biologically sensitive areas. Additional assistance was provided for ESA PWA conducting micro-topographic elevation surveys for the EIR studies.

Continued the site-specific Level 3 coordinated monitoring program for Southern California estuarine wetlands funded through EPA Wetlands Program Development Grant.

Ballona Wetlands Restoration Planning/CEQA-NEPA: Coordinated geotechnical field exploration field teams, including: consultant teams, Native American monitors, State Parks archeologists, and biological monitors. Prepared, circulated and presented the Scoping Report and a Draft Alternatives Memo, a summary of public comments received in response to the NOI/NOP, and an overview of a range of alternatives for the project to the PMT for discussion and comment. Facilitated a sub-committee of the Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) to discuss restoration options for the Adaptive Management Plan as follow-up to previous SAC meetings. Drafted the Adaptive Management Plan. Facilitated involvement and integration of the Annenberg design team into the framework for the on-going technical, environmental review, and permitting processes for the project.

Continued to facilitate discussions with the Army Corp. and County regarding EIS/EIR, 404, and 408 permit and application requirements, as well as the 214 funding mechanism to expedite Army Corp. review and coordination. Continued coordination with LA County Department of Public Works Executive and Flood Control Division staff to facilitate preparation and review of the 408 application materials and inter-agency MOU in support of the 214 funding agreement. Finalized Submittal A of the 408 permit application and coordinated QA/QC by the County and initiated preparation of the final submittal packet including signed requests for the permit by County and Dept of Fish & Wildlife.

Ballona Wetlands Monitoring Program: The third year monitoring report (Ballona Wetlands Ecological Reserve Monitoring Program: 2011-2012 Final Report) with comprehensive data from throughout the BWER was being drafted. The fourth year of monitoring began on October 1, 2012. Surveys conducted over the past six months included: vegetation (submerged aquatic and seed bank transects), large mammal, herpetofauna, water quality, invertebrate (terrestrial, aerial, and benthic), CRAM, photo point, soil salinity, and vertebrate mortality surveys.

Additionally, the biological monitoring team continued to provide substantial support to the restoration process, Project Management Team, technical team, the Scientific Advisory Committee, and additional team members. A draft plant palette was developed for SAC review. Partnership/coordination continued with multiple Universities and the Southern California Coastal Water Research Project to include Ballona-specific data in a regional monitoring program. Standard Operating Procedures were developed and reviewed by a scientific advisory committee. A QAPP was drafted.

Malibu Lagoon Restoration: Restoration of the 12-acre Lagoon continued throughout this semi-annual reporting period. Biological monitors conducted surveys, relocated animals, and monitored heavy equipment throughout the process. Restoration of the wetland habitats was completed on October 15, 2012 and the berm separating the main Lagoon was removed on

October 29. Baseline Monitoring was conducted in February and March 2013. Restoration of the upland habitats was completed at the end of March, 2013. Several interpretive elements are still being finalized; the Lagoon is open to the public. Ribbon cutting will be held on May 3rd.

Wetland White Paper: Continued to revise draft literature review regarding the value of vegetated coastal marsh in compensatory mitigation for lost subtidal habitat. Identified additional applications of these results including Los Cerritos wetlands/Port of Long Beach and the N San Diego County wetlands/I-5 corridor revision.

Deliverables:

N/A

Next Steps:

Complete Malibu Lagoon restoration. Continue and complete the Ballona Wetlands restoration planning CEQA/NEPA process and monitoring.

Status:

Ongoing

Task 2.2 – Facilitate Stream Restoration and Protection

Stone Canyon Creek Restoration: Continued monthly community restoration program at University Lab School and UCLA.

Culver City Rain Garden: Continued maintenance and removal of non-native vegetation. Coordinated 3 volunteer community restoration days.

Mudsnail Survey – No survey during this reporting time period??

Deliverables:

N/A

Next Steps:

Continue the community restoration program at Stone Canyon Creek and annual mudsnail survey.

Status:

Ongoing

Task 2.3 – Facilitate and coordinate watershed management and habitat restoration in the Ballona Creek watershed

Ballona Creek Watershed Task Force: Continued to facilitate and coordinate Ballona Creek Watershed Task Force meetings bi-monthly. Activities included developing presentation agendas, chairing meetings, and responding to members' requests for updates on activities throughout the watershed.

Lower Ballona Ecosystem Restoration Feasibility Study: Continued to coordinate with Corp staff regarding assessment of credits for cost share deliverables with the purpose of closing out the study.

Deliverables:

N/A

Next Steps:

Continue facilitation of the Ballona Creek Watershed Task Force additc

Status:

Ongoing

TASK 3. Marine Habitat Protection and Restoration

Task 3.1 – Promote Marine Ecosystem Protection through Outreach and Information Sharing

Summary:

MPA Outreach - Preliminary results of the Aerial Monitoring of Ocean Vessels in Southern California were presented to the Staff of the California State Coastal Conservancy and California Ocean Science Trust MPA Monitoring Enterprise. These same results have been presented at Loyola Marymount University at two classes Introduction to Environmental Science and Environmental Sustainability.

Socioeconomic Research related to Marine Spatial Planning - Conducted twice monthly flights of the mainland coast of southern California to accurately map the location, type and activity of vessels operating in state waters, (out to three miles). These data will eventually inform resource managers tasked with adaptive management of a network of MPAs as to responses in boating resulting from the establishment of that network.

Deliverables:

N/A

Next Steps:

Continue aerial ocean vessel survey and monitoring

Status:

Ongoing

Task 3.2 – Conduct Research of Important Marine Habitats and Species

Sea Grass - A pre-proposal was submitted to California Sea Grant to determine the community level difference(s) between sea grass beds in relation to their distance from rocky reef

complexes. The status, distribution and location of these important sea grass beds, federally recognized as essential fish habitat are poorly understood in our study region.

Cetaceans - Through the Aerial Monitoring of Ocean Vessels in Southern California program we have begun mapping the great whales observed on our surveys. These data which define the location, species and activities of the whales will be compiled and analyzed and will inform numerous regulatory agencies on management actions related to the Marine Mammal Protection Act and Endangered Species Act.

Kelp Restoration - The modeling of secondary production in rocky reef habitats, i.e, urchin barren versus kelp forest was analyzed and submitted for publication. The report was published in March of 2013 in *Ecosphere* and describes the increase of 883% harvestable sea urchin roe for fishermen potentially resulting from the restoration of kelp forests off of Palos Verdes.

Abalone Research - The genetic study of green abalone in the Southern California Bight was complete. The results of analysis of tissue samples from Green Abalone, (*Haliotis fulgens*) have been submitted to the journal *Conservation Genetics*. The findings from our research confirmed via singular nucleotide polymorphisms that green abalone in southern California are members of the same population. Collected 24 of 40 abalone to serve as broodstock for the restoration effort on Palos Verdes.

360 Fisheries - Interviews for the Market Innovation project continued; attended Working Waterfront symposium. Data on length, weight, and sex of lobsters entered in the annual lobster mobster contest in Redondo Beach were collected and submitted to California Department of Fish and Wildlife. Continued to participate in the Lobster Advisory Committee meetings; a draft FMP is expected this summer. Received extension on grant to test a non-lethal method of determining sex of California halibut in non-spawning condition; tested method on 34 fish caught as bycatch.

Ecosystem Based Management (EBM) Network - Continued to attend monthly phone meetings. Funding for the EBM Network Coordinator position is running out.

Deliverables:

N/A

Next Steps:

Continue to carry out the rocky reef restoration project. Continue to carry out abalone recovery project and the halibut study.

Status:

In progress

Task 3.3 – Restore and Enhance Rocky Reef Habitat

MSRP Urchin Removal/Kelp Restoration Project: Monitoring for this project has been initiated with 164 SCUBA based transects completed by December 2012. We are in the final stages of securing permits from the California Department of Fish and Wildlife. The whole process has taken 12 months.

Deliverables:

N/A

Next Steps:

Begin and continue the MSRP urchin removal/kelp restoration project.

Status:

In Progress

TASK 4. Education and Outreach

Task 4.1 – Implement the SMBRC outreach strategy

Summary:

Conference Presentations –

Presented at several regional and statewide scientific conferences, including three presentations (invited speakers) at the Southern California Academy of Sciences, one presentation at the California Estuarine Research Society, one at the Headwaters to Ocean conference, and one at the Southern California Kelp Monitoring Symposium. Also, as a member of the State Clean Beach Task Force, assisted the State Water Board in planning a Beach Science Symposium to be held in late November.

Ten articles were published in local newspapers facilitated by SMBRF staff.

Ballona Wetlands Outreach: The outreach program participated in at least one local Farmer's Market per month. Continued to recruit local students for internships and volunteering and engage/inform the public about the restoration process. Several tours of the Ballona Wetlands Ecological Reserve were conducted for school groups, elected officials, the National Association of Environmental Professionals, and additional local environmental organizations. Coordination and facilitation was provided to MRCA for their Junior Rangers: Wetland Unit Program. Booths/tabling of several events throughout the watershed.

Continued quarterly Ballona Wetlands Restoration Project and Watershed e-newsletter.

Urban Wetland Symposium: SMBRC co-hosted the 3rd annual Urban Wetland Symposium entitled "Climate Change in Urban Estuaries" at LMU. A range of scientific speakers from all over California presented on topics ranging from sea level rise to erosion and thermal stress, with an attendance of approximately 170 people.

Malibu Lagoon restoration outreach – Arranged tour with KCET blogs reporter who provided a thorough, accurate and positive article on Malibu Lagoon restoration to date. Participated and helped with the planning team for Ribbon Cutting with outside agencies - includes everything from event schedule to invitation text, talking points, on-site logistics, etc.. Prepared media materials for the opening ceremony scheduled for early May.

News media outreach – Prepared and distributed six news releases for SMBRC events, program, and publications. Six articles were published in local newspapers facilitated by SMBRF staff.

Made individual pitches for stories to universities that our staff has been associated with and had two stories published.

Social Media/Website – Consolidated the organization represented in social media under ONE name: this is now the case for Facebook, Twitter, Flickr, YouTube. Revised parts of the website to better communicate certain programs and represent the scope of the organization's work.

Urban Coast – Solicited manuscripts from perspective authors, conducted peer review of submitted articles for Volume 4, Issue 1 of the journal.

Annual Report and Baywire – Developed and distributed 2012 Annual Report. Developed and distributed the BayWire newsletter to stakeholders following each Governing Board meeting.

Prepared and submitted application for the Green Leadership Award for Los Angeles County for the Culver City Rainwater Harvesting Program.

Conference/Presentations: Invited to and gave presentations and guest lectures at several local Universities, including: Loyola Marymount University, University of Southern California, and the University of California, Los Angeles. Additionally, three poster presentations were given at several regional and statewide scientific conferences.

Deliverables:

BayWire

Next Steps:

Continue publication of BayWire and Urban Coast Journal on regular basis, as well as conducting other outreach described above.

Status:

Ongoing

Task 4.2 – Continue overseeing the Boater Education and Outreach Program

Summary:

Boating Events - Participated in five boating events to conduct face to face outreach and education: Sunroad Boat Show, Avalon Harbor SCUBA Cleanup, Long Beach Boat Show, Women's Sailing Association Dinner, and Newport Beach Boat Show. At the events, staff collected 165 boater surveys, signed up 70 new Changing Tide subscribers, distributed 419 Southern California Boater's Guide, gathered a total of \$5,487 in in-kind and cash match from volunteers working at the boating events and donated booth expenses.

Changing Tide - Produced Winter and Summer/Fall newsletters, distributed 3,000 newsletters to the Southern California boating community and another 600 to email subscribers (6,684 newsletters are distributed statewide).

Southern California Boater's Guide, Digital Version 1.0 - Staff developed e-book version of Guide, which includes many interactivity features such as embedded videos, live links for GPS coordinates, websites, and phone numbers. Staff is waiting for final approval from Department of Boating and Waterways before publishing for free download via iTunes in April or May.

Honey Pot Day - Completed final report that details 2012 totals: 3,279 gallons of sewage pumped; 230 boaters participated in program; evaluation survey of boaters participating in the program showed that the information session, pumpout service, and overall impression of the program were all rated 4.6 or higher out of 5. All responses indicate that participants would recommend this program to other boaters and consider using a mobile pumpout company again however no one, who didn't already have one, signed up for a regular pumpout service.

Pumpout Monitoring - Conducted quarterly monitoring of 67 public sewage pumpout facilities in Southern California.

Program management and specialized outreach - Completed bi-weekly and quarterly reports and finalized 2013 annual work plan and budget.

Deliverables:

N/A

Next Steps:

Continue outreach and education. Publish e-book. Begin work on 2014 work plan for Clean Vessel Act Grant.

Status:

Ongoing

Task 4.3 – Oversee the PIE mini-grant program

Summary:

Initiation of new round of PIE program is contingent on funding availability. Continued to solicit additional funding sources and promote the program in conjunction with other programs and the implementation of the Commission's overall financing strategy.

Next Steps:

Continue to pursue other means of funding for additional, future rounds of PIE projects.

Status:

On hold

Task 4.4 – Participate in the PV Shelf Institutional Controls Program.

Summary:

FCEC Participation - Continued to participate in the conference calls of the message group and provide feedback on FCEC's existing and new outreach projects.

PV Shelf Superfund Investigation – Attended the meetings of the Technical Information Exchange Group and provided input on the latest results of sediment sampling conducted by EPA on the PV Shelf. Continued to assist FCEC in evaluating result of the fish consumption study.

Deliverables:

N/A

Next Steps:

Continue to participate and assist in FCEC and PV Shelf activities.

Status:

On-going

TASK 5. Planning, Monitoring, and Program Management

Task 5.1 – Increase funding and/or develop new financing mechanisms for BRP implementation

Summary:

General – Continued to follow up with congressional and senate staff after the Spring visit and coordinated with other NEPs regarding federal budget. Continued to work with state legislative staff to monitor pending legislation that could assist with funding the SMBRC. Continued ongoing monitoring of new/introduced state legislative efforts for potential funding and policy issues relevant to the SMBRC.

Financial Strategy Development – Continued outreach to GB member organizations for soliciting annual contribution and received contributions from several watershed cities.

Solicited and hired a development specialist to create materials to be used by Foundation Board in their fundraising outreach efforts.

Deliverables:

N/A

Next Steps:

Continue working with congressional staff to secure NEP funding. Continue to solicit member contribution and seek public and private funding opportunities.

Status:

Ongoing

Task 5.2 – Inter-agency coordination and involvement

South Bay Outreach: Continued participation at monthly meetings of Jurisdictional Group 5&6 (South Bay cities, LA County, CalTrans).

Other - Continued work with LBERFS TAC, Southern California Wetland Recovery Project Wetland Managers Group, Integrated Wetlands Regional Assessment Program, Loyola Marymount University Environmental Stewardship and Sustainability Committee, Southern

California Coastal Water Research Project, Friends of Ballona Wetlands Science and Restoration Committee, and multiple local Universities.

Continued work with multi-agency partnership to develop and coordinate the Ballona Wetlands restoration planning efforts and early access improvements, including the Department of Fish and Game, SCC, Army Corps, LA County Flood Control District, MRCA, and others.

Participated on state-wide aquatic invasive species task force, Malibu Creek Watershed Technical Advisory Committee, Rindge Dam Technical Advisory Committee, the State Water Resources Control Board Clean Beach Task Force, the State Water Resources Control Board Biological Objective Stakeholder Group.

Continued to serve as technical advisor on Resource Agency's state-wide Urban Greening and River Parkways grant programs. Continuing to review applications, attend workshops, visit sites, and meet with TAC in Sacramento.

Coordinating with National Park Service and California Department of Parks and Recreation on a project to reintroduce the endangered California red-legged frog to multiple sites throughout the Santa Monica Mountains.

Deliverables:

N/A

Next Steps:

Continue participation on relevant stakeholder and technical advisory groups.

Status:

Ongoing

Task 5.3 – Implement the Comprehensive Bay Monitoring Program

Summary:

Comprehensive Monitoring and State of the Bay Report – Continued working with SMBRC TAC to finalize a framework for assessing habitat health to be used in the 2015 State of the Bay Report. In collaboration with the Los Angeles County Sanitation District and the City of Los Angeles Bureau of Sanitation, prepared a Comprehensive Monitoring Program Implementation Progress Report.

Continue to work with Pepperdine University researchers to develop a health index for sandy intertidal habitat. Continue to help facilitate and participate in the meetings of the Beach Metrics Group and made progress in developing a general framework for the beach index.

Deliverables:

N/A

Next Steps:

Continue to facilitate habitat index development.

Status:

Ongoing

Task 5.4 – BRP implementation progress tracking

Began a public process for updating the Bay Restoration Plan. As first step of the process, compiled information on implementation status of all objectives and milestones of the current BRP and presented the preliminary results to the Watershed Advisory Council. Held staff retreat to review BRP implementation progress and discuss the need and areas of BRP revisions. Held the annual Watershed Advisory Council meeting to receive input from stakeholders on the proposed BRP update. Also solicited input from the Executive Committee and TAC.

Deliverables:

N/A

Next Steps:

Continue and complete the BRP implementation progress evaluation and the BRP Update.

Status:

Ongoing

Task 5.5 – State of the Bay Reporting

State of the Bay Report 2015 - Held first brainstorming meetings with TAC members and staff regarding stories to include in this edition of the State of the Bay Report. Continued to develop habitat health assessments for each habitat in the Bay to be the primary status and trends reporting in the 2015 State of the Bay Report.

Deliverables:

N/A

Next Steps:

Continue development of the 2015 State of the Bay report. Begin collecting data, hold workshops to finalize habitat health assessments.

Status:

Ongoing

Task 5.6 – Conduct general GB support, organizational management and reporting activities

Summary:

General – Continued with basic HR and accounting tasks. Completed the final program and financial reports for the EPA-NEP grants between 2006 and 2012.

Prepared agenda and organized staff reports for Executive Committee and Governing Board meetings as well as the annual Watershed Advisory Council meeting. Responded to GB/EC member inquiries and issues.

Coordinated Foundation board meetings, including agenda preparation, staff report organization, et al.

Hired a new Communication Specialist.

Continue to respond to many public record requests regarding the governing and organization structure, as well as operating procedures of the SMBRC. Also responded to state and local agency inquiries regarding SMBRC activities, governing board and Watershed Council issues, and status of governing board membership.

NEP Activities – Served as Chair of the ANEP. Participated in quarterly conference calls with EPA management and ANEP executive committee. Participated the Spring NEP/EPA meeting and Congressional visits.

TAC and MRAC – Held 2 TAC meetings and 3 MRAC meetings. Recruited a new TAC member.

Deliverables:

Governing Board, Executive Committee, Foundation Board of Directors, TAC/MRAC agenda Packages.

Next Steps:

Continue management and reporting activities. Continue providing staff support for GB, EC, TAC and MRAC.

Status:

Ongoing